



# the PULSE

THE DSBG NEWSLETTER  
MAY 2026



small business  
development

Department:  
Small Business Development  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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# Abbreviations and Acronyms

4IR	Fourth Industrial Revolution
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
AFS	Annual Financial Survey
APP	Annual Performance Plan
ASGISA	Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa
B-BBEE	Broad-based Black Economic Empowerment
BRICS	Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa
CIPC	Companies and Intellectual Property Commission
CDS	Co-operatives Development Strategy
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
CDSP	Co-operatives Development Support Programme
CBDA	Co-operatives Bank Development Agency
DFIs	Development Funding Institutions
DDM	District Development Model
DPME	Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation
DSBD	Department of Small Business Development
DPSA	Department of Public Service and Administration
DIRCO	Department of International Relations and Cooperation
dtic	The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition
DBE	Department of Basic Education
EDD	Economic Development Department
ESIEID	Economic Sectors, Investment, Employment, and Infrastructure Development
E-governance	Electronic Governance
ERRP	Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan
ESG	Environmental, Social and Governance
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEAR	Growth, Employment and Redistribution
HSSP	Hospitality Sector Support Plan
IBDS	Incubation and Business Development Services
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IFC	International Finance Corporation

# Abbreviations and Acronyms

ISPESE	Integrated Strategy for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship and Small Enterprises
MSE	Micro and Small Enterprises
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MTSF	Medium Term Strategic Framework
NIBUS	National Informal Business Upliftment Strategy
NEDLAC	National Economic Development and Labour Council
NDP	National Development Plan
NISED	National Integrated Small Enterprise Development
NSEA	National Small Enterprise Act
NT	National Treasury
OCSLA	Office of the Chief State Law Adviser
PSC	Public Service Commission
PAYE	Pay As You Earn
PoA	Programme of Action
PFMA	Public Finance Management Act
RDP	Reconstruction and Development Programme
RIA	Regulatory Impact Assessment
SAMAF	South African Micro Finance Apex Fund
SARS	South African Revenue Service
SBC	Small Business Corporation
SBD	Small Business Development
SEDA	Small Enterprise Development Agency
SEFA	Small Enterprise Finance Agency
SEIF	Shared Economic Infrastructure Facility
SEIAS	Socio-Economic Impact Assessment System
SMME	Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises
SOE	State Owned Enterprises
Stats SA	Statistics South Africa
TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
TREP	Township and Rural Enterprise Programme
VAT	Value Added Tax
WOE	Women-Owned Enterprises.
WECONA	Women Economic National Assembly



**The Department of Small Business Development and its agency, Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA) exists to champion the growth of small-scale businesses in South Africa.**

To access DSBDB economic success initiatives, stories and voila welcome to the world of successful entrepreneurship.



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# THE MONTH OF *May*

As the month of May is recognized as Africa Month a period that, for entrepreneurs and small businesses serves as a strategic focus for pan-African economic opportunity, regional integration, and market expansion.

We celebrate startups and small businesses as they are the heartbeat of the economy, driving growth through widespread job creation, innovation and local economic resilience. MSMEs must use it as a reflective period to focus on the growth of their businesses.



## The Department of Small Business Development hosted the National Summit on Local Economic Development in Johannesburg

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA



The Minister for Small Business Development portfolio, Stella Tembisa Ndabeni led the National Summit on Local Economic Development being held from 15 to 16 April 2026 at the Birchwood Hotel in Johannesburg. The event was themed, “Re-engineering Local Economies: A Collaborative Blueprint for Small Enterprise Growth and Ease

of Doing Business.” This theme encapsulated the urgent need to rethink and transform local economic strategies to foster small enterprise development and create a more conducive environment for business operations at the local level.

## Continuing...



The Summit was hosted by the Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) in partnership with the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) and the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (CoGTA). This collaboration brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including representatives from national, provincial, and local government, the private sector, academia, and civil society.

The timing and impetus for the Summit were shaped by ongoing economic challenges facing South Africa, particularly at the local municipal level. Many municipalities continue to grapple with high unemployment, limited economic diversification, and systemic barriers that hinder small business growth. Recognising the vital role that local economies and small businesses play in driving national development, the Summit was convened to provide a platform for dialogue, knowledge sharing, and the development of innovative solutions. To unlock the full potential of MSMEs government is taking deliberate steps to remove barriers that constrain business growth. One key intervention is the Red Tape Reduction Framework, which provides municipalities and businesses with practical tools to eliminate unnecessary bureaucracy.

These initiatives are aligned with broader reforms outlined in the Revised Draft White Paper on Local Government. The proposed reforms focus on strengthening municipal governance, improving financial management accelerating infrastructure

delivery, and enhancing spatial planning. Effective governance remains the cornerstone of successful LED, and these reforms are geared towards building capable, responsive, and developmental local institutions that can drive economic growth. The Acting Premier emphasized Gauteng's vital role as South Africa's economic hub, underlining the province's commitment to innovation, investment attraction, and inclusive growth. She acknowledged spatial inequality as a significant challenge and stressed the importance of revitalizing township economies and integrating informal businesses. By focusing on these efforts, the province aims to empower disadvantaged entrepreneurs and ensure equitable access to economic resources. Additionally, she highlighted the necessity of infrastructure investment, digital transformation, and improved service delivery to stimulate business growth and enhance Gauteng's overall economic environment.

The Minister for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Mr Velenkosi Hlabisa advocated for the District Development Model (DDM) to enhance coordination among national, provincial, and local governments, aiming for a unified approach to local development. He stressed the importance of improving service delivery and infrastructure to attract investment and boost businesses, while calling for stronger governance systems to ensure transparency and accountability in municipalities. This collective effort is crucial for fostering economic transformation and inclusive growth.

## Continuing...

Cllr Bheke Stofile, President of the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), reaffirmed SALGA's commitment to supporting municipalities in their developmental role. He emphasized the importance of making Local Economic Development (LED) a central municipal function, supported by sufficient funding and technical expertise. Cllr Stofile called for municipalities to adopt innovative and entrepreneurial strategies, such as enhancing investment facilitation, streamlining administrative procedures, and strengthening stakeholder engagement. He also highlighted the need for intergovernmental collaboration and private sector partnerships to achieve sustainable economic outcomes, asserting that municipalities must be empowered to lead local economic transformation.

Minister Ndabeni emphasized the pressing need to move beyond policy statements and ensure that local economic development efforts translate into tangible, measurable outcomes. She stated that the adoption of the LED Summit Declaration represents a pivotal move towards a more coordinated and action-oriented approach, focused on practical implementation rather than rhetoric. The Minister highlighted that reducing regulatory obstacles is essential for unlocking the growth potential of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). She pointed

out that government is actively prioritizing the modernization and simplification of business licensing processes, which includes the introduction of one-stop service centres and digital platforms to make it easier and more efficient for entrepreneurs to operate.

The Minister also called for enhanced collaboration between government, the private sector, and development institutions. She argued that such partnerships are vital for driving inclusive, enterprise-led growth, especially in township and rural areas where economic opportunities must be expanded. By working together, these stakeholders can help create an ecosystem that fosters innovation, investment, and sustainable development at the local level.

The Minister for Small Business Development welcomed the President of the Republic of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa to address the summit on re-engineering local economies, placing strong emphasis on the central role of small business growth in South Africa's economic future. The President referenced the recent success of the South Africa Investment Conference, where R890 billion in investment pledges were secured, and stressed that such investments manifest in cities, towns, and villages, not only in national institutions.



## Continuing...



President Ramaphosa highlighted persistent challenges facing local government, including inadequate service delivery, poor financial management, and infrastructure constraints, all of which hinder economic development. He stated that the summit's purpose was to shift focus from talking about these problems to implementing practical solutions.

In his address, the President proposed four key areas of action: unblocking service delivery constraints, especially around basic infrastructure; improving the ease of doing business by reducing bureaucratic obstacles; establishing a robust operational framework for local economic development through regional partnerships; and professionalising local government to ensure capable and accountable administration.

He called on all stakeholders—government, the private sector, financial institutions, and communities—to work collaboratively in developing an action-oriented plan with clear deliverables. President Ramaphosa concluded by reaffirming that South Africa is a nation of entrepreneurs and that it is the collective task of all present to unlock this potential and build an inclusive economy that benefits every South African, in every municipality, across the country. The discussion on digital transformation and data systems focused on the development of integrated data-sharing platforms and the enhancement of evidence-based planning and decision-making processes.

Ms Thulisile Manzini, Director-General of Small Business Development, emphasized the need to drive the implementation of the LED Declaration

commitments and ensure alignment across national, provincial, and local government. She highlighted the importance of promoting transparent reporting and accountability, as well as strengthening partnerships with the private sector, development finance institutions, organised labour, civil society, and traditional leadership structures.

Minister Ndabeni outlined several key strategic commitments arising from the Summit, including business licensing reform, the establishment of one-stop service centres, and the digitalisation of licensing processes to fast-track regulatory reform. She noted efforts to reposition LED as an innovative and entrepreneurial system that supports investment attraction and job creation. The Minister also emphasised the development of a national digital data platform, improved intergovernmental coordination, and the introduction of innovative financing models for LED projects, along with expanded MSME financing and enhanced technical support.

The National Summit on Local Economic Development presented a valuable opportunity to consolidate these efforts. It galvanised coordinated action from government, business, and communities to strengthen partnerships and agree on practical steps forward. Government continues to draw inspiration from the National Development Plan, which envisions an economy that creates jobs, reduces inequality, and eliminates poverty by 2030. Thus, achieving this vision will require coordinated action, responsive governance, and sustained support for the entrepreneurs who drive economic activity at the local level.



## Minister Ndabeni delivered the keynote address at the Ecosystem Strategic Engagement and Dialogue in East London

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA

On the 09th April 2026, the Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) and its agency Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency hosted the Ecosystem Strategic Engagement and Dialogue at the Immaculate Abbotsford Christian Centre central to theme: “Leading Transformation Together through Targeted MSME & Cooperative Development” The theme captures the potential benefits and strength of working together in a strategic manner, targeting key industry sectors and specific MSMEs, whilst focusing joint resources and effort on identified areas of economic activity, where there is high growth potential for MSMEs to be supported in compliance, business competitiveness and market access.

The gathering, being held in East London, drawn a diverse range of government representatives, policymakers, as well as high-ranking officials from various institutions. The Ecosystem Strategic Engagement and Dialogue is a flagship event that attracted over 100 local entrepreneurs spanning several industries and stakeholders from both the public and private sectors.

The event aimed to reiterate the call to support local enterprises and consists of multiple activations, business matchmaking sessions, and interactive panel discussions, that provide exhibitors and the delegates in attendance with practical and tangible outcomes. It offered a global platform for MSMEs to address pressing issues hindering businesses from reaching their full potential. The meeting, built on the theme of empowering startups and MSMEs through driven economic transformation, economic development, growth, and job creation.

Those in attendance included key role-players in private-sector and State-Owned Enterprise-supported the summit including corporate/ SOE boards and management transformation and supply chain decision-makers; private business development consultants and practitioners; State actors such as the Department of Small Business Development (DSBD), DTIC, Sedfa and certain development agencies; academic institutions; and industry and business chambers and associations.

## Continuing...



Ecosystem Strategic Engagement and Dialogue aimed to mobilize the full breadth of South Africa's small enterprise development ecosystem, facilitating dynamic engagement between public and private sector ecosystem stakeholders, development finance institutions, donor organizations, and ecosystem enablers.

In line with the National Small Enterprise Amendment Act of 2024, which formalizes the SEDFA role of ecosystem coordinator as a national imperative for MSME support. The gathering acted as a catalytic platform to position SEDFA as the ecosystem coordinator, foster partnerships, harmonize enterprise support interventions, and create a coherent framework for inclusive MSME and Cooperative development.

During the symposium, Minister Ndabeni emphasized the importance of advancing women's participation in the mining economy, from exploration to beneficiation, and ensuring women are owners, producers, and leaders. She highlighted the need for a continental strategy to industrialize Africa's mineral endowments and noted the department's support for small-scale miners and enterprises in the mining value chain. The Minister expressed the portfolio's ambition to support one million small businesses and enable over 1.8 million jobs through a coordinated ecosystem.

To address the key challenges facing startups globally, focusing on providing support through different governments and agencies to startups through funding, mentorship, resources, and advocacy is needed. The goal is to help early-stage companies scale, innovate, and grow, particularly in emerging markets or industries. This could be done through the establishment of an integrated foundation consisting of multiple organizations such as government bodies, private sector leaders, and non-profit organizations, coming together to solve common challenges faced by startups. which will be an accelerator and/or incubator.

The theme celebrated entrepreneurs across various sectors who have demonstrated resilience, excellence, and innovation in building successful and sustainable businesses. This includes startup innovators of enterprises with propensity to grow at scale. It also recognises the critical role of ecosystem enablers in supporting MSMEs by ensuring access to essential resources and fostering growth. It acknowledges enterprises that not only drive economic growth but also contribute to the green economy, promote climate-conscious solutions, and adopt sustainable development practices that ensure long-term prosperity for future generations.

Minister Ndabeni stated that  
**“The Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) is committed to driving transformation, economic inclusion, and strengthening the entrepreneurship ecosystem through strategic partnerships with relevant stakeholders to foster a thriving and sustainable small business sector.”**

“As government, we recognise that innovation is not only about technology, but also about empowerment. This is why we are advancing initiatives such as SEDFA Pay, a digital payments and financial-inclusion platform designed to integrate micro and informal enterprises, spaza shops, street traders, and township MSMEs into the formal economy. SEDFA Pay will enable a secure, low-cost, and interoperable digital ecosystem, facilitating access to finance, record-keeping, and market participation. In doing so, it will position South

Africa’s small-enterprise ecosystem for a cash-light, inclusive, and data-driven economy, while advancing our national objectives of localisation, transformation, and job creation.” the Minister added.

Member of the Mayoral Committee in the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality, Amanda Mute underscored the fact that South Africa’s startup landscape is replete with promise, but its success is contingent upon the establishment of inclusive ecosystems that empower women, youth, rural enterprises, and persons with disabilities.

Mute also outlined the importance of economic development and transformation. “In South Africa we have initiated the development of a startup policy for high growth scalable startups. We are inspired by the deliberations and recommendations. Augmented by policy positions emerging from the engagement, we should find international benchmarks and customise these to our own specific conditions given peculiarities that we have as a country.”



# Minister Ndabeni led the Stakeholder Engagement in Mthatha

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA



The Department of Small Business Development hosted a Stakeholder Engagement led by Minister Stella Tembisa Ndabeni at O.R Tambo District Municipality in the Eastern Cape on the 07th of April 2026.

The session was aimed at providing an update to the strategies and priorities of the department and monitor progress regarding the enactment process. Moreover, Small businesses play a vital role in South Africa's economy, acting as catalysts for growth, job creation, and community development.

The discussion on the strategies and priorities was focused on the coordination between government wards and strengthened private sector partnerships

for small enterprise development towards growth and economic development.

In her opening remarks, the Minister for Small Business Development, Stella Tembisa Ndabeni said "This engagement is aligned to the Medium-Term Development Plan 2024-2029 and the priorities of the 7th Administration. Our task today is to ensure full alignment between Department, SEDFA, Local, Provincial and National sphere."

The Executive Mayor of King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality, Nyaniso Nelani welcomed participants and outlined key socio-economic priorities for the municipality, including economic revitalisation and service delivery improvements.



In his opening remarks, Executive Mayor, Nyaniso Nelani, emphasised the importance of constituency engagement as a governance tool, the integration of parliamentary oversight with executive coordination and the need for practical, coordinated interventions to address local challenges. He facilitated the programme and extended most sincere and warm greetings to government officials attending the meeting. "As we are gathered here today ours is to coordinate and drive small enterprise development growth."

"The new merged entity should be seen as groundbreaking in small enterprise development and financing in South Africa and must give expression to the active role of the state in overcoming market inefficiencies that have hindered the participation of, especially, black-owned small enterprises in the economy."

He further stated that "It can also leverage more funds and capabilities from other development finance institutions (DFIs), multilateral development partners, institutional investors, impact funders, and the private sector broadly, to maximise funding for small enterprises."

Executive Mayor, Nyaniso Nelani mentioned that the Small Business Portfolio must increase support to manufacturing enterprises because they contribute to the GDP and must drive import replacement through locally manufactured goods increase exports

in manufactured goods. The rationale for the new entity is to create a single integrated institution that can facilitate access to the full spectrum of services previously provided individually by the three entities, thus enhancing access to non-financial and financial support needed by small enterprises in the different stages of the business lifecycle, accessible in all parts of the country.

Minister Stella Tembisa Ndabeni delivered the keynote address during the Stakeholder Engagement.

Minister Ndabeni said "SEDFA strategy is targeting to support and address a greater number of small enterprises across the country and to enhance development impact and ensure that small enterprise support interventions are directed at maximum impact and are accessible in all districts (regional presence) and lastly the establishment of this entity will be agile enough to identify and take advantage of opportunities to grow its resources to reinvest in further supporting small enterprises in a sustainable manner.

Minister emphasised that the department and its entity need to be awake to the fact that key to becoming the one-stop-shop is digitalisation. The one stop shop will hugely expand the reach and scale of the SBD Portfolio work; radically improve the interface with the MSMEs. This will allow to scale where necessary and cut back where impact is sub-optimal.

## Continuing...

“Digital platforms will also enable us to better co-ordinate the eco-system. We have resources – more than R3 billion for 2026/27 financial year. We have filled most of our executive posts. We have put many enabling policies and frameworks in place – on red-tape, business licensing, township economy, funding policy, incubation and business development services etc.”

Minister Ndabeni stated that “ There is affirmation that we are on the right track. During the 6th Administration we developed the country’s 3rd iteration SMME strategy – the NISED – and made key changes to our principal Act, the National Small Enterprise Act. These changes are now law. We can now move ahead with urgency by establishing the Office of the Small Enterprise Ombud, which provides a critical justice mechanism for small business. And as you know the amended Act also gives me the power as Minister to declare certain trading practices unlawful on the recommendation of the Ombud. We are moving steadily in levelling the playing fields for small businesses and co-ops. We also know the classifications have changed, and we will now all use the acronym MSMEs – micro, small and medium enterprises.”

“The DSBD has the mandate to develop MSMEs and co-operatives in support of economic growth, job creation, and economic transformation. It is the department which must account to Parliament and the people of the country on how we have performed in this regard. To do this the department develops policies and puts partnerships in place to ensure their execution. We are currently busy with the MSMEs and Co-operatives Funding Policy, which among other things will establish the Fund of Funds. The department must drive the overall MSME strategy of the country (NISED), and co-ordinate all players in the eco-system. Not just co-ordinate but mobilize and activate so that we leverage more resources for MSMEs and co-ops,” said Minister Ndabeni.

Minister Ndabeni further stated that  
**‘Our job is to enable SEDFA to do these things, and we need to clearly understand what it is we need to do as DSBD and what the new entity itself will do.’**





# Minister Ndabeni led the oversight visit at Cortex Hub in East London

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA

The Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) in partnership with its entity, Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (sedfa) paid a working visit to Cortex Hub KuGompo City to assess as well as monitor the progress by company, established in 2015, with a staff force of up to 50.

DSBD which falls under the Ministry of Small Business Development was established in 2014 marking a turning point in history of SMMEs and Co-operatives development in South Africa, to lead and coordinate an integrated approach to the promotion and development of entrepreneurship, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Co-operatives, and to ensure an enabling legislative and policy environment to support their growth and sustainability.

The Department of Small Business Development led the government's visit to Cortex Hub, as its vision aligns with empowering innovative start-ups to create positive change in the world. They believe that by providing right resources and support they can help businesses to grow and have a real impact on society. The hub is passionate about building a culture of innovation that is inclusive, diverse, and accessible to all. By fostering an environment of transparency and collaboration. They aim to create a supportive ecosystem where entrepreneurs can thrive.

The company believes that innovation is the key to solving some of the world's most pressing challenges.

By encouraging and supporting start-ups, they hope to create a better future for all.

The visit provided the government an opportunity to tackle service delivery challenges impacting the KuGompo City and served as a platform to assess progress made in implementing the District Development Model (DDM). The DDM intergovernmental framework encourages collaborative planning and budgeting among all three domains of government to enhance service delivery and stimulate economic development in specific districts and metropolitan areas. It prioritizes districts and metros for development and enables a spatially integrated 'one plan' to address poverty, unemployment, and inequality, while creating jobs by developing essential infrastructure such as water, sanitation, roads, and electricity.

Furthermore, the visit enhanced public participation in government programmes aimed at empowering and developing communities through strengthened partnerships with stakeholders such as business, academics, and non-governmental organisations and to interact with local stakeholders and visit key projects in sectors such as agriculture, water and sanitation, micro, small and medium enterprises, which continue to drive job creation initiatives, enhance economic growth, and help eradicate poverty.



# Minister Ndabeni brings hope to Mthatha entrepreneurs

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA

The Minister for Small Department of Small Business Development (SBD), Stella Tembisa Ndabeni and the directorial leadership of Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDFA) handed over business tools and equipment to informal traders and Small and Medium (SMMEs) at Mthatha Community Hall situated in O.R Tambo District Municipality, Mthatha, Eastern Cape.

This presentation of integral business merchandise and machinery forms part of the (DSBD)'s flagship program known as the Informal and Micro Enterprise Development Programme (IMEDP).

It empowers up and coming entrepreneurs from the previously disadvantaged communities by providing them with basic business management skills, business tools, machinery and start up packages. It is a 100% grant, that aims to improve the

competitiveness and sustainability of the informal sector as well boost the new entrants to the cut-throat world of business. This IMEDP is an integrated planning model implemented by the DSBD which seeks to ensure an integrated approach to tackling small business problems and providing long-term solutions. The engagement is also aimed at fostering collaborations between government, businesses, and residents to find solutions to existing small business challenges.

IMEDP allows DSBD and Sedfa officials an opportunity to engage in information sharing sessions with various micro entrepreneurs as well as sole traders. They get time to sit in one room and share knowledge and tips on how best to grow businesses, try out new ideas and iron out the bottle necks in doing business.

## Continuing...

The recipients received equipment ranging from bread toasters, fryers, hair dryers, blow torchers, welding machines, carpentry, and agricultural equipment amongst others brought in by the DSBD, Sedfa.

The Minister for Small Business Development, Stella Tembisa Ndabeni presided over the official handover of machinery and equipment to recipients during the (IMEDP) ceremony coming from the villages and townships bordering the O.R Tambo District Municipality. Traditional leaders from the district, municipality officials, Local politicians in conjunction with business leaders, DSBD, officials and local prominent politicians graced the event to witness the handover of working materials and tools to emerging entrepreneurs aiming to boost the city's economic performances.

The IMEDP is a 100% grant, supporting entrepreneurs with start-up kits and basic business management training forums on how to run successful businesses and marketing skills. This IMEDP is effectively a programme designed to increase the productivity and growth of up-and-coming businesses enterprises in rural areas and township areas throughout the country. Its focus is to assist SMMEs to improving their sustainability and competitiveness in the fast-paced world of competitive business.

O.R Tambo District Municipality, Chief Whip, Mr Mlanjeni introduced Minister Ndabeni to the packed Mthatha Community Hall, which stands at the heart of the town, and is used for most community outreach projects by the state.

"We are here today to play our part in empowering local small businesses as well as other informal enterprises and small-scale farmers in remote areas of our community. MSME's are the cornerstone of a thriving economy and I'm happy to see that the DSBD has recognised that, and the minister is here with us today to hand over these machinery and equipment to people who will make better of them and improve the lives of their families and communities," Chief Whip Mlanjeni said.

**"Please let us take this opportunity to make our MSMEs and informal business stronger by working hard on improving them." said Minister Ndabeni. She called for due diligence to be employed by state enterprises to ensure that SMMEs are given all the support, so that they could grow and be able to complete fully with established enterprises.**

**"The DSBD protocol envisages that once you receive such government backing, you use it to double your output and increase your daily revenue intake".**

**"These machinery and equipment are meant to assist you grow your businesses, employ more people and be bigger players in the local economy," said Minister Ndabeni.**

**Minister Ndabeni reassured the community of governments call to curtail the troublesome red tape, which has been identified as a major obstacle in the growth of small businesses.**

**She emphasised the need for joint efforts from other state arms, namely the Department of Home Affairs, South African Police Services (SAPS) and local enforcements to weed out the influx of illegal and expired goods into the market as it harms the local production economy.**

**"DSBD would like to see all community organisations benefit from such endeavours and the spillages spread to touch all the citizens in the villages around Mthatha and beyond as people come from different places seeking a better life in towns" added Minister Ndabeni.**

**"The great economic climate in the city augurs well for those seeking to grow their businesses and employ thousands of unemployed youths roaming the city's townships looking for work hence halving the unemployment figures in the country" said Chief Whip Mlanjeni.**

# Minister Ndabeni led a Back-to-School Programme in the Eastern Cape

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA



The National Development Plan (NDP) calls for the implementation of a joint national initiative involving all stakeholders to drive efforts to improve learning outcomes. It is therefore the country's collective effort to work together in order to meet the set targets and achieve the desired outcomes.

This year's initiative was embraced by Minister Ndabeni as well as the Department of Small Business Development their sole aim was to equip learners with abundance of knowledge, provide them with all the necessary schooling equipment to develop their talents and grasp as much academic information as they can to succeed in their exams in the near future.

The Back-to-School programme provides operational, and logistical support to guarantee access to formal and non-formal education for children and youth aged between 7 and 17 while strengthening the long-term capacity of the South African public education system to improve the quality of education services.

Mr Nyaniso Nelani, Executive Mayor, King Sabata Dalindyebo at King Sabata Local Municipality welcomed Minister Ndabeni and her guests with a prayer at the school's assembly point and provided warm opening remarks.

Following a challenging 2021 year where the COVID-19 pandemic marred and disrupted the school calendar, causing uncertainty and anxiety, Government proposed a coordinated government wide 2022 Back to School campaign to facilitate the 2022 School Readiness in support of the education sector with the broader society and partners.

Annually, government rolls out a range of Back-to-School initiatives at the beginning of January to mid-February to promote Education as a country priority to human and economic development, essential to lifting people out of poverty and enabling them to live a better life.

The Minister for Small Business Development, Stella Tembisa Ndabeni led in a Back-to-School Programme held at Sakhela JSS and Spfundevu High School in the King Sabata Dalindyebo Local Municipality under the O.R Tambo District Municipality in the Eastern Cape province on the 08th April 2026.



“

**“It brings joy to me to see learners going to school in full uniform and attending in classes in proper structures. I did not have that opportunity as I went to a rural school bare footed with no proper uniform, no shoes and our class was a thatched rondavel hut sometimes leaking when it was raining,” he said.**

”

Minister Ndabeni encouraged learners to choose entrepreneurial courses in order to create jobs and build stronger sustainable businesses and acquire business skills to contribute to the country's economy.

Minister Ndabeni encouraged all stakeholders to work together to address societal issues confronting rural schools and they must empower upcoming entrepreneurs to thrive in the business space.

Minister Ndabeni gave academic bags filled with basic school apparels, school shoes to hundreds of learners from grade six to grade twelve.

The Department of Small Business Development will continue to provide support to all learners at the school in future, to ensure that you have a right future and excel in your academics and in life” concluded Minister Ndabeni.

Educators, parents and local community members thanked the Department of Small Business Development, Minister Ndabeni for helping the learners from this rural school.





## Freedom Day Marathon Promotes Wellness, Unity and MSME Development

BY: TAMRY ESIRI



The spirit of Freedom Month was brought to life on 25 April 2026 as the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality, in partnership with the Department of Small Business Development (DSBD) and the Small Enterprise Development and Finance Agency (SEDA), successfully hosted the Freedom Day Marathon in Bloemfontein, Free State province.

Held at the Mangaung Athletics Club at Poelaning Memorial Park, near Mangaung City Hall, the event drew participants from across the province and

beyond, creating a vibrant atmosphere of energy, unity, and community pride.

The marathon formed part of Freedom Day commemorations, with a dual focus on promoting healthy lifestyles and advancing economic participation. By integrating sport with enterprise development, the event created a unique platform to highlight the role of small businesses in driving local economic growth.

## Continuing...



Minister of Small Business Development, Ms. Stella Tembisa Ndabeni, attended the event, underlining government's continued commitment to supporting micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and strengthening community-based economic initiatives.

Participants competed across multiple race categories, including the 42.2km and 21.1km races, which commenced in the early morning, followed by the 10km, 5km, and 1.6km races later in the day. The variety of distances ensured broad participation, welcoming both seasoned athletes and community members of all fitness levels.

In addition to promoting physical wellness, the event also provided opportunities for local entrepreneurs

to showcase their products and services, further strengthening the link between community engagement and economic activity. This aligns with the mandate of the Small Business Development Portfolio to support MSMEs, particularly within townships and local economies.

The day concluded with an awards ceremony, where Minister Ndabeni, alongside Free State MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture, Ntombizanele Sifuba, presented prizes to winners across all categories. The ceremony celebrated not only athletic excellence but also the determination, resilience, and spirit of participation that defined the event.



# Informal Traders in Kagisano-Molopo Empowered Through IMEDP Equipment Handover Kagisano-Molopo

BY: CLEMENT MOAGA

The Department of Small Business Development, in partnership with Kagisano-Molopo Local Municipality, handed over essential business equipment to informal traders as part of the Informal Micro Enterprise Development Programme (IMEDP). The handover marks a significant step in strengthening the local informal economy. Beneficiaries received tools of trade tailored to their businesses, aimed at boosting operational capacity, improving productivity, and building more sustainable and competitive micro-enterprises.

DSBD Deputy Director Zanele Seema outlined the background and purpose of IMEDP during the ceremony. "IMEDP is an instrument of the National

Informal Business Upliftment Strategy which seeks to uplift informal businesses within the informal economy and render support to local chambers, local business associations, municipalities and Local Economic Development offices to deliver and to facilitate access to upliftment programmes," Seema said.

DSBD Deputy Director Emmanuelle Moshoeshoe led an engagement session on strengthening the informal economy and easing business operations at the IMEDP handover ceremony in Kagisano-Molopo Local Municipality. The session equipped traders with practical insights on compliance, record-keeping, market access, and steps toward formalisation.



## Continuing...

Delivering the keynote address, Kagisano-Molopo Local Municipality Mayor Cllr Mosimanegape Diphikwe reaffirmed the municipality's commitment to small business development. "Empowering our local entrepreneurs is key to unlocking economic growth and prosperity in our community. We are proud to support the Informal Micro Enterprise Development Programme and look forward to seeing these businesses thrive," said Mayor Diphikwe.

By equipping traders with the necessary tools of trade, the initiative not only restores dignity to small business owners but also opens opportunities for growth, innovation, and formalisation. Many beneficiaries operate in sectors such as food, tailoring, carpentry, and automotive services. The programme reflects a strong commitment by both

spheres of government to support the informal sector, which remains a critical driver of local economic development, job creation, and poverty alleviation within communities.

This collaborative effort further demonstrates the municipality's ongoing dedication to creating an enabling environment for small businesses to thrive, while strengthening partnerships that deliver tangible impact on the ground. The Department of Small Business Development will monitor the traders over the next 12 months to track growth, job creation, and income improvement.



## Kwaze Kwamnandi Primary Co-operative strives to better equip the eThekweni region

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA

Kwaze Kwamnandi Primary Co-operative Limited is based at Kwamakhutha, started by a group of black women and men, who are entrepreneurship driven, with the main focus of contributing their skills in catering, textile and cleaning industries.

The Co-operative is a community-based enterprise specialising in textile manufacturing, PPE supply, cleaning services, and skills development. The cooperative is committed to delivering high-quality, cost-effective, and reliable services aligned with client specifications and industry standards. They focus on empowering youth, women, and previously disadvantaged individuals through skills transfer and job creation, while maintaining strong operational performance in both public and private sector projects.

The company was supported by the Department of Small Business Development and its agency Small

Enterprise Development and Finance Agency through the Cooperative Development Support Programme. It was also assisted with business coaching, business development and growth funding.

The main objective of the company is to establish a sustainable and competitive textile manufacturing enterprise that empowers underprivileged black women and men through skills development in the textile industry. The company aims to address socio-economic inequalities by providing training in sewing, fabric production, design, and business management, enabling individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds to gain practical skills and become financially independent. Their programmes include technical training with financial literacy and mentorship have been shown to help people build sustainable livelihoods and even start their own businesses.



## Continuing...

Its key objective is to promote economic empowerment and inclusion by increasing economic participation within the textile sector. This aligns with broader transformation goals such as those in Black Economic Empowerment (BEE), which focus on expanding access to economic opportunities, skills, and enterprise ownership for historically disadvantaged groups.

Additionally, the company aims to foster a collaborative and inclusive working environment

where individuals support each other, as community-based textile enterprises have been shown to reduce poverty and improve quality of life through shared skills and resources.

Kwaze Kwamnandi Primary Co-operative's objective is not only to produce high-quality textile products but also to serve as a platform for social change, empowerment, and long-term economic growth, transforming disadvantaged communities into active participants in the economy.



## SEDFA incubation bears fruits for Tembo Engineering

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA



It's not everyday that you get a success story of a women owned mechanical engineering firms surviving in the highly competitive world of dirty mining and electrical generation in the sun-baked Mpumalanga highveld.

Shocky Seloane would not have been lost in glittering make up and polished nails and a designer outfit strutting her stuff in the white-collar industry in Sandton, but she chose to dabble in the road less travelled by females and tackle the giant nuts and bolts in the belly of the earth in Middelburg mines.

In 2016 she registered Tembo Engineering, and in 2020 the first contract landed in her dining room table.

Armed with Bachelor of Technology degree in Mechanical Engineering from the famed Tshwane University of Technology, she chose to work in the mining sector in Mpumalanga and break the long-held gender stereotypes of females only suitable to work in offices.

"We are a growing company, from a one woman show with operations from the dining room table at home and occasionally renting small workspaces and temporary labour, to occupying a workshop in the industrial area of Middelburg, complimented with a dedicated team of eight members. Growth presents itself with challenges, including of constrained cash flow as number of orders increase, constraints of tools, machinery and skilled resources to deliver good quality result."

"Tembo Engineering in the 2020/2021/2022 financial years found itself quite frustrated at unaffordable workshop fees as we sat with a fabrication order to execute. Under pressure, we walked into the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality LED (Local Economic Development) office. The manager introduced us to Mpumalanga Stainless Initiative (MSI) an incubator supported by the Local Municipality and by Small Enterprise Development agency (SEDA). The company signed up for the incubation program where we qualified for a subsidized workshop and office space. Renting a workshop on a lease agreement was an act of faith as we did not have an established market" said Seloane.

## Continuing...

Tembo Engineering is a 100% Black Youth Women-owned and led Mechanical Engineering services company based in Middelburg, Mpumalanga. They innovate and design through our core which is mechanical engineering consulting work, from which we develop maintenance strategies or plans and drawings. Furthermore, do fabrication as per design and drawings to add value to the supply chain.

After a frustrating two years in operation, Tembo Engineering faced cash flow constraints to keep the company afloat amid the crippling global Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent nationwide lockdown. They sort financial assistance from the Department of Small Business Development's (DSBD). They were enrolled in the SEDA Incubation programme and allocated office space and a workshop at Mpumalanga Stainless Initiative (MSI) in Middelburg where they are currently based.

The permanent residency on MSI premises opened opportunities for them including access to business-to-business trade, supplier trust as we were locatable and accessible and had reference and permanent address.

"Signing up, we got access to business coaching and access to government training, seminars such as export and imports which gave us information on obtaining our customs number for imports and export and introduction us to, SHETRADES".

We acquired Presidential Awards access at 21Sloane, SEDA pitch for funding 2022 where we were on the top 9; a highlight for us in 2022" she added.

Residency at MSI allowed for Tembo Engineering to grow and spread its wings within the mining sector in Mpumalanga and were awarded a 30% three-year steel fabrication contract with Thungela Resources.

**"For me, government intervention has awarded me an access to participate in the economy, to be able to take up space in male dominated industries. The implementation of the Central Supplier Database has given us access to a wide market, giving an opportunity to the hard workers to bid and a chance to bid fairly. Local offices of Sedfa and incubation centres are helpful in developing us as entrepreneurs and more especially as manufacturers and real participants in the economy."**

Tembo engineering is moving to being a generic company, with an established export of skills and high-quality products with trade throughout SADC, to Africa and the World.

Their vision is to be a sought-after mechanical engineering company in Southern Africa, equipped with applicable machinery to match global competition.



## From Wellness to Impact: How Yemaya express+ is Redefining Convenience and Community Upliftment

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA

Yemaya express+ is a proudly South African wellness and grooming business that is redefining how self-care is experienced in high-traffic environments.

The business was built on a simple but powerful idea of making premium wellness services more accessible, convenient, and experiential. Today, Yemaya express+ delivers a diverse range of aesthetic and wellness offerings designed for modern, fast-paced lifestyles.

One of its most notable innovations is its expansion into airport wellness services. Recognizing a gap in the market, the business introduced massage chair experiences tailored for traveler's seeking relaxation while in transit. This model not only enhances customer experience but also creates a scalable, usage-based revenue stream. And, what truly sets Yemaya express+ apart is its commitment to social impact.

The business actively recruits and develops individuals from underserved communities such

as Tongaat, Hambanathi, Amanzimtoti, Verulam, and Inanda. Through in-house training and skills development, employees are equipped with the tools needed to thrive in professional, customer-facing environments and opening pathways toward financial independence and career growth.

"Our growth is directly linked to community upliftment," the business notes. "As we expand into premium environments, we reinvest into training, employment, and development within underserved areas."

Support from initiatives linked to the Department of Small Business Development has further contributed to strengthening the business, providing access to development platforms and opportunities that enable sustainability and growth.



# BUSINESS PROFILE

## AMS Nyathi Group (Pty) Ltd a locally rooted, globally focused company

BY: LUBABALO SIGONYELA

AMS Nyathi Group (Pty) Ltd is a proudly South African construction group specializing in professional flooring solutions and precision tile fabrication. Built on a foundation of quality, integrity, and innovation, the company delivers exceptional workmanship across commercial, industrial, and residential sectors. Through their two dedicated divisions, AMS Nyathi Flooring and AMS Tile Lab, they provide complete flooring and tile solutions tailored to meet the demands of modern construction and property development.

The firm was established by Asanda Mbense in 2019, to redefine flooring excellence and raise the standard within the construction industry, while creating a platform for young people to thrive and build meaningful careers in the sector. The firm was supported by the Department of Small Business Development through the Youth Challenge Fund with a grant and working capital loan for equipment.

Driven by passion, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to excellence, their journey reached a defining milestone in 2023 when they were honoured with the KZN Youth in Business Award (Property Category). This recognition was more than an award it was a powerful affirmation of their hard work, leadership, and growing impact within the property sector.

In 2025, they were proudly named Award Winner – Property Category by Youth in Business South Africa, further cementing their position as a rising force in the industry. That same year, they achieved another historic milestone becoming the first youth owned and first black-owned company to be accredited by Tal South Africa. This achievement reflects not only their technical excellence and compliance standards, but also the company commitment to transformation, empowerment, and breaking barriers within the construction sector.

Their vision expanded to better support eThekweni clients; they established AMS Tile Lab which specializes with tile-cutting division, dedicated to precision craftsmanship and custom fabrication. This strategic evolution allows them to offer fully integrated flooring and tile solutions, combining innovation, skill, and efficiency under one unified group.

AMS Nyathi Group (Pty) Ltd continues to build more than floors as they create opportunities, set new benchmarks, and creating a legacy of excellence that inspires the next generation of industry leaders. The company aims to become the leading flooring and tile solutions in South Africa, known for quality, reliability, and empowering youth-driven business excellence.



# Why MSMEs Are the Backbone of Employment in South Africa

BY: TAMRY ESIRI



Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) play a critical role in shaping South Africa's economic landscape. Beyond contributing to economic growth, these enterprises are a primary source of employment, providing livelihoods for millions of South Africans across urban, township, and rural communities.

In a country where unemployment remains one of the most pressing socio-economic challenges, MSMEs offer an accessible entry point into the economy. Research by the Banking Association of South Africa consistently shows that small businesses are responsible for a significant share of employment, with estimates indicating that they provide around 60% of jobs in South Africa. In some studies, this figure rises even higher when informal businesses are included, highlighting the depth and reach of the sector across the labour market (Engineering News, 2024).

Unlike large corporations, small businesses often require lower barriers to entry, enabling entrepreneurs to start and grow ventures with limited resources. From informal traders and spaza shop owners to innovative start-ups and cooperatives, MSMEs create opportunities where they are needed most. In fact, small and medium enterprises make up over 90% of formalised businesses in the country, underscoring their dominance in the business landscape (The Banking Association of South Africa, 2021).

Importantly, MSMEs are deeply embedded in local communities. They not only generate income for business owners but also create jobs for family members, neighbours, and residents. This localised impact strengthens community economies, encourages the circulation of money within communities, and contributes to more inclusive economic development.

The sector is also a key driver of innovation and resilience. MSMEs are often more agile than larger organisations, allowing them to adapt quickly to changing market conditions and customer needs. This flexibility enables them to explore new ideas, respond to local demand, and sustain economic activity even in challenging environments.

## Continuing...

According to a 2024 News24 article by Lwandile Bhengu, from an economic perspective, MSMEs make a substantial contribution to national output. Estimates suggest that the sector contributes between 34% and 40% of South Africa's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), reinforcing its importance not only in employment creation but also in overall economic growth.

Recognising the importance of MSMEs, the Department of Small Business Development (DSBD), together with its entities, continues to implement targeted programmes aimed at supporting the

growth and sustainability of small businesses. These initiatives focus on improving access to funding, providing business development support, and enhancing market access for entrepreneurs, particularly in underserved areas.

As South Africa continues to pursue inclusive economic growth, the role of MSMEs cannot be overstated. By supporting and investing in this sector, the country strengthens its capacity to create jobs, reduce inequality, and build a more resilient economy.



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# Building Ethical Excellence: Upholding Integrity in Our Daily Work

BY: MOSHALA JANE KOLANYANE



May provides us with a valuable opportunity to reflect on how we work and the standards we uphold as public servants. It is a time to pause and consider how our daily actions contribute to the overall effectiveness, credibility, and integrity of our department. The way we conduct ourselves has a direct impact on the people and communities we serve.

Ethics is not just about following rules but it is about doing the right thing, even when no one is watching. Every email we send, every decision we make, and every interaction we have with colleagues or members of the public should reflect our values. Integrity means being honest, fair, and consistent in everything we do.

In our department, we play an important role in delivering services that people rely on. This means that our work must always be guided by transparency and accountability. When we are transparent, we are open and clear about our processes and decisions. When we are accountable, we take responsibility for our actions and are willing to explain them when needed. These principles help to build trust between our department and the public.

Sometimes, ethical challenges may arise in the workplace. These can include situations where there is pressure to take shortcuts, ignore procedures, or make decisions that may not be fair. In such moments, it is important to pause and think carefully. Ask yourself: Is this the right thing to do? Would I feel comfortable if this decision was made public? These simple questions can guide us to make better choices. Working with integrity also means treating others with respect. This includes our colleagues, supervisors, and the people we serve. Respect creates a positive working environment where everyone feels valued and heard. It also helps us to work better as a team,

which improves the quality of our service delivery. Leadership also plays a key role in promoting ethical behaviour. When leaders act with honesty and fairness, they set a good example for others to follow. However, ethics is not only the responsibility of management. Each one of us has a role to play in maintaining a culture of integrity within our department. By leading through our own actions, we contribute to a stronger and more ethical workplace.

## **There are also practical steps we can take to strengthen ethical behaviour in our daily work:**

- Always follow established policies and procedures
- Keep accurate and honest records
- Speak up when something does not seem right
- Avoid conflicts of interest
- Treat confidential information with care

## **These may seem like small actions, but together they make a big difference.**

As we move through May, let us use this time to reflect on our personal and professional conduct. Let us commit to doing our work with honesty, fairness, and responsibility. By doing so, we not only improve our department but also contribute to building a more trusted and effective public service. Ethical excellence is not something that happens once, it is something we practice every day. Each one of us has the power to make a positive impact through the choices we make. Let us continue to uphold integrity in all that we do and strive to serve with pride and purpose.



# Why is May Day so important, and why should it be seen as more than just a day off?

BY: TAMRY ESIRI

Observed annually on 1 May as Workers' Day, the day holds deep historical and social significance. It is a moment to recognise the contributions of workers, reflect on the progress made in securing labour rights, and consider the work that still lies ahead.

According to an article published on History.com, the origins of May Day date back to the late 19th century, when workers across the world began organising for fair working conditions, including the now widely accepted eight-hour workday. One of the most defining moments in this movement was the 1886 labour protests in Chicago, which became a global symbol of the fight for workers' rights and ultimately gave rise to the international observance of the day.

In South Africa, the meaning of Workers' Day is closely tied to the country's own history of struggle and transformation. The labour movement played a pivotal role not only in advancing fair workplace practices but also in challenging the injustices of apartheid. Trade unions became powerful vehicles for mobilisation, advocating for dignity, equality, and social justice for all workers.

Following the democratic transition, Workers' Day was officially recognised as a public holiday in 1995. Today, it stands as both a celebration of progress

and a reminder of the sacrifices made by those who fought for the rights many now enjoy.

However, the significance of May Day extends beyond history. Today, it provides an important opportunity to reflect on ongoing challenges in the labour market. Issues such as unemployment, job security, fair wages, and safe working conditions remain central to South Africa's development agenda. As the world of work continues to evolve, these conversations are more relevant than ever.

Observing Workers' Day can take many forms. While organised events and public engagements often mark it, it is also a time for personal reflection. It encourages individuals to consider the value of work in their own lives, acknowledge the contributions of others, and recognise the role that every worker plays in building the economy.

Ultimately, May Day is not only about rest, it is also about recognition. It is about honouring the people who keep communities functioning, industries moving, and the economy growing. By viewing it as more than just a day off, South Africans can better appreciate its purpose as a day of reflection, respect, and renewed commitment to building a fair and inclusive society.

## References:

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# Celebrating Strength and Balance: Honouring Working Mothers

BY: MOSHALA JANE KOLANYANE

Mother's Day is a time to recognise and appreciate the love, care, and dedication of mothers in our lives. Within our workplace, it is also an opportunity to acknowledge the incredible role played by working mothers, women who balance the responsibilities of their careers while nurturing and supporting their families.

Working mothers carry a unique and often demanding load. Their day does not end when they leave the office. After meetings, deadlines, and responsibilities at work, many return home to continue with household duties, childcare, and emotional support for their families. This dual role requires strength, resilience, and careful time management.

One of the common challenges faced by working mothers is balancing time. Meeting work expectations while being present for their children's needs can sometimes feel overwhelming. School activities, health needs, and family commitments often require flexibility, which can be difficult to manage alongside strict work schedules. Despite this, many mothers continue to show up fully in both spaces, giving their best even when it is not easy.

Another challenge is the pressure to perform. Working mothers may feel the need to prove themselves both at work and at home. In the workplace, they strive to maintain productivity and professionalism. At home, they aim to be present, supportive, and attentive. This constant balancing act can sometimes lead to fatigue and stress.

There are also moments when working mothers may experience feelings of guilt, feeling that they are not doing enough in one area because of the demands of another. These feelings are real and valid, and they highlight the importance of understanding and support within the workplace. As a community, we have an important role to play in creating an environment that supports working mothers. Simple actions can make a meaningful difference. Showing understanding when flexibility is needed, promoting a culture of respect, and recognising the contributions of working mothers all help to create a more supportive workplace. When employees feel supported, they are more motivated, engaged, and able to perform at their best.

## Continuing...

It is also important to celebrate the strengths that working mothers bring into the workplace. Many develop strong organisational skills, patience, problem-solving abilities, and emotional intelligence through their experiences. These qualities do not only benefit their families but also add great value to their teams and the department.

This Mother's Day, let us take a moment to recognise and appreciate the working mothers among us. Their dedication, both at work and at home, does

not go unnoticed. A simple word of appreciation, understanding, or encouragement can go a long way. Mothers are an essential part of our workforce and our communities. Their ability to manage multiple roles with strength and commitment is truly admirable. As we celebrate Mother's Day, let us continue to build a workplace that supports, values, and uplifts them, not only on this day, but every day.



HAPPY  
*Birthday*  
to you

MAY 2026

03

- Dlabantu Thandolwethu

05

- Selahle Matshediso

06

- Bvuma-Nkwekwezi Mkatoko

07

- Valla Vijay

08

- Macanda Siphe

10

- Tetyana Nompembelelo
- Ralerumo Winnie Dipuo
- Bhila Sibusiso

11

- Mampuru Mosele

12

- Dayile Vuyisa

15

- Mabusela Sylvia

17

- Jozi Babalwa

18

- Gwaza Cynthia
- Umlaw Stephen

19

- Ramushu Tears
- Shikwambani Tommy Thulani

20

- Sompini Piliswa
- Maloka Kabelo

21

- Mokwatedi Precious
- Msane Nhlakanipho
- Mabunda Emmanuel
- Lekoloane Elmon

24

- Mpotulo Mpotulo

30

- Benzane Palesa



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development

Department:  
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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